



Continuing our practical series giving advice on lighting different areas of the home, REBECCA WEIR considers

swimming pools

Illuminated water can have a magical quality – especially at night. The position and type of fittings used in and around a swimming pool, however, are crucial to a successful lighting scheme. Pool lighting should be discreet and easy to maintain, so LEDs and fibreoptic lights are becoming more popular, replacing traditional incandescent or more common low-voltage lamps. LED light fittings (which do not need to be replaced) and fibreoptics are also cool to touch.

Rebecca Weir is design director of Light IQ (tel: 020-7386 3949, website: www.lightiq.com)

◀◀ Designed by Skidmore, Owings & Merrill in association with 'light artist' James Turrell, this award-winning scheme is created by **submerged solid-core fibreoptic fittings**, which illuminate the pool itself, and fibreoptic panes that 'frame' each wall. Fibreoptic lighting comes in a range of coloured light which can be created or changed at the touch of a button. For details about fibreoptic lighting, call Martin Lighting on 01622-755442, or visit www.martin-architectural.com.

▼ This pool, designed by Barrett Lloyd Davis Associates, employs **cold cathode lamps** – useful for their long life – to illuminate the walls of the room. The Barrisol ceiling is backlit with colour-changing cold cathode lamps that create the effect of a skylight. The five, low-voltage projectors that provide shafts of artificial 'daylight' cost from £495 each, from The Light Corporation (tel: 01442-216200).



▲ The lighting around this pool draws the eye beyond the water, thereby maximizing the sense of space and drama. **Lights set into the steps lead visitors safely to the pool.** The pool lights also define the space for safety but have been set into the side of the pool closest to the house, ensuring it is the illuminated water, not the light source, that is visible from the house. The uplighting accentuates the textural contrast of the rough stone walls. Stainless-steel 'Euro Step Light' with louvre (IP66), £131 each, by Hunza, from Light IQ.



Tools of the trade
Metalarte's light-hearted, rechargeable floating pool lights measure 53 x 23cm diameter, and cost £265 each, from Noel Hennessy (tel: 020-7323 3360) □